

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney hereby provisionally elects group 1 of the Examiner's restriction requirement. Further, Applicant's attorney provisionally elects species 2 shown in figure 4, subject to traverse. Applicant's attorney reserves the right to file the canceled claims in an appropriate continuation application.

The Examiner alleges that the application contains no generic claim with respect to group 1 of the recited restriction requirement. Applicant's attorney respectfully traverses the Examiner's ground of restriction of the species.

The Examiner has restricted group 1 into seven species. Except for Species 4, each of those species are non-distinct embodiments of a putter head having first and second strike lines or surfaces. Species 4 is related to the insert having a plurality of shaft receiving apertures. As recited further herein, Applicant's attorney has canceled the claims related to the shaft insert from the application.

The first strike line is found on a flat surface of the putter heads shown in the figures. The second strike line is found at the ends of the putter on the curvilinear surfaces. The Examiner is noted that each of the putters depicted in the Figures comprises rounded ends defining a curvilinear surface where a second strike line is located. The second strike line is always disposed above the first strike line because the radii of the rounded ends are equal and greater than the radius of a golf ball. Thus the second strike line of the club relative to the ball is higher than the first strike line, which is on a flat surface. This design provides proper over spin on a golf ball to enhance putting, and reduce skidding and jumping of a golf ball when initially struck. This characteristic is consistent throughout the Figures and generically claimed in both Claim 1 and newly added Claim 20. This is a non-distinct feature of each aspect of the invention, as shown in the various figures.

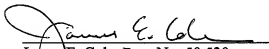
Otherwise stated, the present invention is related to a golf putter head which has strike lines along at least two surfaces. This is depicted in Figures 1-3 and recited in Claim 1. Further, Figure 4 depicts a golf putter head having the same characteristics which are also recited Claim 1. (See page 8, lines 11-14). Regarding species 3, Claim 1 also recites the element depicted in

Figures 5-7. (See page 8, lines 16-21). Regarding species 5, Claims 1 recites elements which are utilized in the embodiments depicted in Figures 10 and 11. (See page 10, lines 8 and 17). Regarding species 6, Claim 1 recites elements which are shown in Figure 12. Regarding species 7, Claim 1 also recites elements which are shown in Figure 13. Thus, all of the embodiments of Figures 1-3, 4, 5-7, 10-11, 12 and 13 are found in Claim 1 and Claim 1 is believed to be generic. Applicant's attorney asserts that the Examiner can conduct a single search related to that generic independent claims.

Finally, only Figures 8-9 are related to the insert with multiple shaft angled apertures. Applicant's attorney has cancelled claims 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 and 18-19, which are related to the shaft insert. Applicant's attorney asserts that the insert cited in Claims 7 and 14 is a face insert, not the shaft insert, as shown clearly in Figures 12 and 13. Applicant's attorney has added Claim 20 which is believed to embody the elected species 2 and is believed to also be generic.

Respectfully submitted,

MIDDLETON REUTLINGER


James E. Cole, Reg. No. 50,530
2500 Brown & Williamson Tower
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 608-2746 direct dial
(502) 561-0442 fax
jcole@middreut.com